

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A self-drilling bone screw, comprising:
a body having a head at one end and a tip defining a single
generally flat cutting edge at an opposite end thereof disposed generally
perpendicular to a central longitudinal axis of the body; and
a dual lead thread extending radially outwardly from the body in a
spiral path from the cutting tip towards the head.
2. (Currently Amended) The bone screw of claim 1, wherein the
dual lead thread is ~~multi-pitched~~ variable pitched.
3. (Original) The bone screw of claim 2, wherein the dual lead
thread pitch is tapered towards the cutting tip and transitions to a straight
thread towards the head.
4. (Original) The bone screw of claim 1, including a recess formed
in the head configured to receive an end of an insertion tool.
5. (Original) The bone screw of claim 1, wherein the bone screw is
comprised of a medical grade titanium alloy.
6. (Original) The bone screw of claim 1, wherein the bone screw is
approximately 1.0 to 2.0 mm in diameter and approximately 3.0 to 6.0 mm
in length.
7. (Currently Amended) A self-drilling bone screw, comprising:
a body having a head at one end and a tip defining a single
generally flat cutting edge at an opposite end thereof disposed generally
perpendicular to a central longitudinal axis of the body; and
a dual lead thread extending radially outwardly from the body in a
spiral path from the cutting tip ~~towards~~ to the head, the dual lead thread
being ~~multi-pitched~~ variable pitched ~~such that the pitch of the thread is~~

~~tapered towards the cutting tip and transitions to a straight thread towards the head.~~

8. (Original) The bone screw of claim 7, including a recess formed in the head configured to receive an end of an insertion tool.

9. (Original) The bone screw of claim 7, wherein the bone screw is comprised of a medical grade titanium alloy.

10. (Original) The bone screw of claim 7, wherein the bone screw is approximately 1.0 to 2.0 mm in diameter and approximately 3.0 to 6.0 mm in length.

11. (Currently Amended) A self-drilling, self-tapping bone screw, comprising:

a body comprised of medical grade titanium alloy of approximately 1.0 to 2.0 mm in diameter and approximately 3.0 to 6.0 mm in length, the body having a head at one end and a tip defining a single generally flat cutting edge at an opposite end thereof disposed generally perpendicular to a central longitudinal axis of the body, the body having a generally constant root diameter;

a dual lead thread extending radially outwardly from the body in a spiral path from the cutting tip towards the head, the dual lead thread having a normal rake angle and being multi-pitched variable pitched such that the pitch of the thread is tapered towards the cutting tip and transitions to a straight thread towards the head; and

a recess formed in the head configured to receive an end of an insertion tool.

12. (New) The bone screw of claim 1, wherein the dual lead thread extends from the tip continuously to the head.

13. (New) The bone screw of claim 1, wherein the body has a constant root diameter.

14. (New) The bone screw of claim 1, wherein the dual lead thread has a normal rake angle.

15. (New) The bone screw of claim 7, wherein the body has a constant root diameter.

16. (New) The bone screw of claim 7, wherein the dual lead thread has a normal rake angle.